

Bloomfield Citizen.

WEEKLY JOURNAL

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THE CITIZEN solicits contributions from the general public on any subject—political, religious, educational, or social—so long as they do not contain any personal attacks.

All communications must be accompanied by the writer's name, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith.

Advertisements for insertion in the current week must be in hand not later than Friday noon.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1906.

Board of Estimates Work.

The Board of Estimate, which will meet soon to fix the financial budget for the current fiscal year, will have a serious problem to deal with. There has been a considerable growth in the town in the past three years and a consequent enlarged demand for an extension of public utilities. Plans are out for a still further development in laying out new streets and the erection of houses. All such improvements planned now embody sewers, water mains and street lights, as necessary and essential parts of such propositions and if those utilities cannot be obtained improvement plans will have to be abandoned.

The growth of the town has made itself felt significantly in the case of the public schools and more money will be asked for school purposes this year. The Board of Estimate in making up the financial budget will be forced to consider the needs of a growing community. If that portion of the town south of Bloomfield avenue was alone to be considered there would not be much argument for any increase in the budget, for the development is slow there, but it is in the Second Ward and in Fairview and the territory east of the canal where rapid development is going on, and it is in that part of the town that the members of the Board of Estimate will turn their eyes when debating appropriations.

Tuberculosis.

The Newark Board of Trade cordially extends invitation to attend the American Tuberculosis exhibition which will be held in the Newark Free Public Library, daily, from Saturday evening, February 10, to Saturday evening, February 24, Sundays and holidays included. The exhibition has been organized under the auspices of the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis and the Committee on the Prevention of Tuberculosis of the Charity Organization Society of New York City. It is planned as an educational measure in the present widespread campaign against tuberculosis. It will show by means of models, photographs, charts, diagrams, etc., the main facts with regard to the prevalence of the disease and its prevention and cure. Co-operation from all parts of the country has been enlisted and a comprehensive demonstration of the facts has been installed.

The committee is arranging for a series of meetings to be held at the Public Library during the exhibition. One or more sessions each will be devoted to the discussion of the prevention and cure of tuberculosis from the standpoint of the physician, the school teacher and the trained nurse. There will also be several illustrated lectures addressed to the general public.

High School Dramatics.

The rehearsals for the coming plays at the High School are coming along nicely. A rehearsal is held most every afternoon in the week of one play or the other.

The following are in the cast this year: "The Fatal Message"—Mr. K. Starkweather, Mr. Chas. Davis, Mr. Joseph Mann, Mr. Franklin Wells, Miss Jeanette Taylor, Miss Beale Francis, Miss Althea Blocker and Miss N. A. Bourne. Those in "The Irish Linen Peddler"—Mr. Biggart, Mr. Gady, Mr. Tydemann, Mr. Semmler, Mr. Hrode, Miss Harris, Miss Corrae and Miss Mary Bartholomew. The following are milkmaids in the same play: Miss Pich, Miss Hamilton, Miss Miller and Miss Flemming.

Both plays have been found to be highly amusing and it is hoped that they will be found as enjoyable to the patrons of the play as they appear now to be.

Tickets were put on sale Thursday at George M. Wood's pharmacy, or can be obtained from students of the High School. The earlier the seats are bought this year the better, as there is already quite a demand for them.

A Serious Fall.

Mrs. F. W. Howes of East Orange, in passing from her pew in the First Presbyterian Church to the depressed door of the aisle at the close of the lecture of last Monday evening, fell and broke her left hip. The president of the lecture association called a carriage and accompanied Mrs. Howes and her daughter to their home.

The Salary Ordinance.

A short time ago there was an apparently needless scare about a proposed extensive increase of salaries of town officials. Several offices were named as on the list for a substantial increase. In anticipation of a salary increase, Councilmen were criticized and predictions were made as to the result when the people voted their sentiments on the matter next fall. The salary ordinance has been framed, and the total amount of increase in the salary list is eighty dollars, and some of the Councilmen were opposed to that.

This public perturbation over a threatened increase of salaries recalls an incident of several years ago, when some newly-elected Councilman made a brass band proclamation in favor of strict economy, and the pruning knife was to be applied to official salaries. The people were led to expect great things and eagerly watched for the appearance of the salary ordinance. When it appeared the sum total of the reduction amounted to fifty dollars.

Auto-Couch Line.

An automobile coach company should find a profitable field for business in East Orange. Twenty-three automobile lines have been established in various cities, and there are thirty-seven in process of establishment in other cities. A company has been organized in Montclair, as detailed in an article which appears in our news column, and where conditions are similar to those which prevail in this city. The company will operate auto-coaches through various streets that will enable the company to best serve the public in furnishing transportation from outlying sections to the centre of the town and the depot. There should be some means of transportation between the northern and southern sections of East Orange, and the centre of the city, and especially with the two depots.—*East Orange Gazette.*

The Poll Tax.

The tax assessors are in receipt of letters from citizens about the poll tax. Some of the correspondents claim that this town is the only one in the county that assesses poll tax. Others claim that the poll tax was a war measure and was abolished many years ago. All the correspondents are mistaken. The tax laws of the present day commands that a poll tax be levied upon every male inhabitant of the State twenty-one years of age, paupers and idiots excepted. The law says "inhabitant," and that term takes in every man, whether he is a naturalized citizen or not. Every municipality in the county but one assesses a poll tax, and the number of polls is increasing each year. Recent arrests for non-payment of poll tax ought to be sufficiently convincing that its assessment is legal.

Church Services.

Services at the Watsessing M. E. Church to-morrow will be as follows: Preaching by the pastor at 10.30 A. M., subject, "Forsaken"; Sunday-school, 2.30 P. M.; Epworth League, 6.45 P. M. At 7.30 P. M. the pastor will deliver a special sermon to the Junior Order of American Mechanics; subject, "Our Country."

The Rev. Elliott W. Brown will give a lecture in the Glen Ridge Congregational Church Sunday evening entitled "The Seventh Earl of Shaftesbury—The Friend and Champion of the Poor and the Oppressed."

Booth Mutilated.

Harry Booth, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Booth of Charles street, this town, and Miss Charlotte Mullen of Orange, were married Wednesday evening at 7.45 o'clock at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, East Orange, by the Rev. Wm. P. Taylor, rector of that church. Miss Alice Booth, sister of the groom, was bridesmaid, and Ralph Mullen, brother of the bride, best man. Mr. and Mrs. Booth will reside in Myrtle street, this town.

To Build a Synagogue.

A meeting of the congregation Shomay Amuno of Montclair and this town will be held to-morrow night at the home of Max Kurnick in Broad street, when final arrangements will be made for the purchase of a plot of ground upon which it is proposed to erect a synagogue. The site upon which the committee in charge have an option is located in Highland avenue, Glen Ridge, and is a desirable piece of property. The price of the latter has not been made known. The synagogue will cost about \$5,000, and plans will be presented at this meeting. A constitution will also be adopted at that time.

A Reception.

Mrs. Henry Spear of 115 Berkeley avenue gave a birthday luncheon January 31. Covers were laid for twenty-four, and the guests came from Perth Amboy, East Orange and this town. Mrs. Sarah U. Matthews and Miss Ada Johnson got the silver thimbles that were in the birthday cake. Mrs. Spear was the recipient of many beautiful gifts. The rooms were decorated with garlands of red and roses.

Berkley School Club.

The quarterly meeting of the Berkeley School Neighborhood Club was held in the school hall Thursday night, and was well attended. The Rev. S. Trevena Jackson of the Watsessing M. E. Church made an address. Vocal and instrumental music was furnished by Mrs. J. W. Peterson and Mrs. G. Smith.

Local Option Question.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN: Sir: There is something mysterious about the local option agitation now extant in the State. Public attention has recently been fixed upon some of the large corporations in this State, and the immense wealth that the head men in these corporations have amassed. The public has also been taking a deep interest in the value of franchise, and the public has also been making some inquiry into the question of equal taxation. The concentrated gaze and interested inquiry on the part of the public upon corporations and into their methods of doing business is becoming irritating to the fiscal magnates of the State and is causing some serious apprehensions, and a recent proposition to make legislative inquiry into corporate methods of business here in this State has occasioned great consternation, and some Newark papers have been appealed to through the customary channels and in the usual effective way to make vigorous protest against the proposed legislative investigation.

It is evident that if public attention cannot be diverted from the corporations and matters pertaining to their business, there are troubling times ahead, and the Colbyites who have been checked at Trenton will be so numerous and angry next fall that they will sweep the State.

What better way to cause a genuine mix-up in public sentiment than to thrust local option to the front? Get the people going on that well-worn lease, and corporation heads need not worry any further, and the people can be relied upon to bite as soon as the local option bone is thrown to the crowd. The result at Trenton on Wednesday was a good specimen of the cat-and-dog time in store for the public when the local option issue gets fairly under way.

The question arises, Has this local option matter been brought up at this present time and in its present manner for the purpose of bringing the public and breaking up the Colby element in politics? If the local option bill is turned down in the Legislature, there will be a howl of rage from that element and the Republican party in Essex county that recognizes "Eddy" Black as leader. If, on the other hand, the local option bill is passed, "dunder and blitzen" will be the cry of rage in the Teutonic section of Newark.

There are some things about the present local option agitation that are deserving of serious consideration by thoughtful people before signing petitions in favor of it, and before rushing to members of the Assembly and asking their support of local option measures.

A complete change from a Republican to a Democratic administration in State affairs would be particularly pleasing to some people with United States Senatorial aspirations, and a local option fight offers a good opportunity for effecting such a political revolution.

There is one thing certain, the injection of a local option issue into State politics at this particular time looks like a trump card play on the part of the corporations, and the Colbyites should steer clear of this trap. ANTI-OPTION.

Spring Elections.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN: Sir: There is a widespread agitation in favor of a return to the spring elections for the election of municipal officers. The people of South Orange are very much in favor of a restoration of the spring elections and a committee of citizens of that place has addressed letters to the officials of East Orange, Montclair, Belleville, Bloomfield and other places asking their co-operation in the movement for the enactment of a law restoring spring elections. The majority of replies, it is said, show a widespread desire for the spring elections and for the immediate enactment of a law that will enable an election for municipal officers to be held this coming spring. Members of the local Board of Trade who have considered the spring election question from a local standpoint confess their conclusions in favor of spring elections and would like to have the Board of Trade go on record in favor of the same.

The said argument that local political issues should be kept separate from State and national issues is again urged as a potent reason for spring elections. The advocates of spring elections say, "We want our entire issues, our franchise questions, our school matters and financial issues acted upon by our people without any accompanying entanglement with county and State questions. We also want a healthy minority party, such as a citizens' ticket appeals to in spring elections." We trust our town officials and our Board of Trade will co-operate with the South Orange movement.

A Demented Woman.

Mary Huegel, 29 years old, who said she formerly worked for a family in Belleville avenue, Newark, was found by Policeman Moran in Franklin street Tuesday morning and taken to the police station. She was suffering from cold and hunger, and said she had slept in a hallway on Franklin street all night.

Lessons from New Zealand. John Graham Brooks, author of "The Social Unrest," will lecture on "Some Lessons from New Zealand Politics" in Commonwealth Hall, East Orange, Monday evening. This will be the last lecture in the season's course given under the auspices of the New England Society of the Orange.

Musical Instruction. Miss Grace Willocks will resume instructions on the piano on Wednesday, 11th, Residence and Studio, 87 Orchard street. Arrangements can be made now.—*Advt.*

Chance For Citizen Readers.

Coupon Worth 25c. If Presented at W. W. Keyler's Store.

In order to test the CITIZEN's great circulation and its superior advertising value, we have made arrangements with W. W. Keyler, the popular druggist, to offer one of his best selling medicines at half-price to anyone who will cut out the following coupon and present it at his store.

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A Threat to the State's Financial Interests.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

Sir: The sensitive nerve of a nation, a State, and a community is its financial interests. Touch these and all other interests quivering respond, for all other interests are intimately and closely allied with these—business, manufacture, commerce, transportation, agriculture, and above all, investments and savings. Charity and philanthropy, and even the interests of the church and religion, are dependent on the stability of the financial structure.

A legislative yielding to an impulse, or following some set example, or led by overzealous or designing men, can do infinite harm to financial interests, and through them to all dependent interests. It can destroy millions of values by a simple resolution. It can so greatly impair confidence and unsettle the public faith by a mere enactment that bank deposits will dwindle, loans be called in, enterprises be halted or abandoned, the people's deposited savings be withdrawn to be hidden in the traditional stocking, and business and industry experience serious reverse.

A blunder, when it involves disastrous results, is worse than a crime. Blunders in legislation have done incomparably more mischief than deliberately planned vicious legislative measures. There may be more dynamite in a resolution than in a hundred statutes or a score of actual investigations. A phantom has more terrors than an actuality. Give the unknown some threatening form and it appeals to the timid mind with all the fears that assailed the guilty soul of the sleeping Richardson Bowerfoot Field.

The resolution pending in the New Jersey legislature for a legislative investigating raid on the great financial interests of the State has already, by suggestion, done harm. There is no charge upon which an investigation can be based. The only excuse offered is the necessity claimed for strengthening the law for supervising financial institutions. This can be done by statute without the least need for a petulant legislative act to involve the inevitable consequences of impaired public confidence and of widespread losses to fall upon all classes. The resolution, born of a whim, and sustained by no logic or reason, should never be translated into a legislative act. It should be dropped forthwith. ANXIETY.

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Appointed Attorney by the Honorable Secretary of the Interior to act on all pension claims including the age order, under which all veterans of 62 years and upwards are entitled to pensions without examination. Agent for the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation Limited of London, England. COMMISSIONER OF DEEDS—NOTARY PUBLIC.

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ESTATE OF JOSEPH WHAY, DE. ceased.
Presented to the order of George H. Whay, surrogate of the County of Essex, this day made, on the application of the undersigned administrators of said deceased, notice is hereby given to the creditors of said deceased to submit to the said surrogator under seal of said county their claims and demands against the estate of said deceased, within nine months from this date, or they will be forever barred from presentation or recovery of the same against the estate.

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